

A. Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Fig.1 through Fig. 8. The drawings improve clarity over the drawings that were electronically filed. The number of elements 401 and 402 are interchanged to correct their transposition in the drawings as originally filed.

Attachment: 8 Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 remain in the application. Claim 1 is amended to more distinctly describe the subject matter of the invention. No new matter is added by the amendments.

A. Drawings.

The replacement sheets are believed to overcome the deficiency noted in the office action. The drawings are believed to be in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 1.121(d).

With respect to illustration of the pulley wheel, it is respectfully believed that pulley 102 which is formed integrally with blade 101 is illustrated and identified in the drawings at a sufficient level of detail to enable one to make and use the invention. The pulley wheel portion 109 is more visible in Fig. 7 and Fig. 8. Ridge 401 and groove 402 are renumbered to correspond with the specification which is believed to overcome the rejection stated in the office action. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to the drawings be withdrawn.

B. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. It is believed that the replacement drawing sheets illustrate the elements recited in the specification. If there are particular elements that are unclear to the examiner it is respectfully requested that these be identified specifically, perhaps in a telephone call so that appropriate modifications can be made.

C. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 based upon Harvey. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 calls for a hydrodynamically balanced rudder that is foil shaped. Harvey does not show a hydrodynamically balanced rudder. The flat blade in Harvey is not foil shaped and does not define a hydrodynamic center that forms a pivot axis for the rudder. While testing of the rudder shown in Harvey would be

required to define the precise location of the hydrodynamic center, it is not believed that the center in Harvey would be near the pivot axis formed by member 15. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by Havey.

Claims 2, 4, 5 and 8-10 that depend from claim 1 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 from which they depend.

Claims 1, 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by Brooks, Jr. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is distinct with respect to Brooks, Jr. for the same reason as Harvey. Specifically, Brooks, Jr. does not show or suggest a foil-shaped blade that is fully retractable. Claims 5 and 6 are allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by Marshal et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is distinct with respect to Marshal et al. for the same reason as Harvey. Specifically, Marshal et al. show a flat blade rudder and do not show or suggest a foil-shaped blade that is fully retractable. Claims 2, 4 and 7 are allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

D. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 based upon Harvey. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and is distinct with respect to Harvey for at least the same reasons as claim 1. The office action dismisses the relative degree of balance to be within the level of skill in the art. However, if this were true why did Harvey specifically choose to mount a rudder blade 17 in an unbalanced location. One can only speculate as to why Harvey would elect an unbalanced design if it were truly within the ordinary skill of the art to provide a balanced solution. More likely, however, is that Harvey and others did not recognize a manner to make a retractable rudder at the same time as a balanced rudder. Accordingly, it is respectfully believed that the

modifications required to make a balanced rudder are not fairly suggested by Harvey.

E. Conclusion.

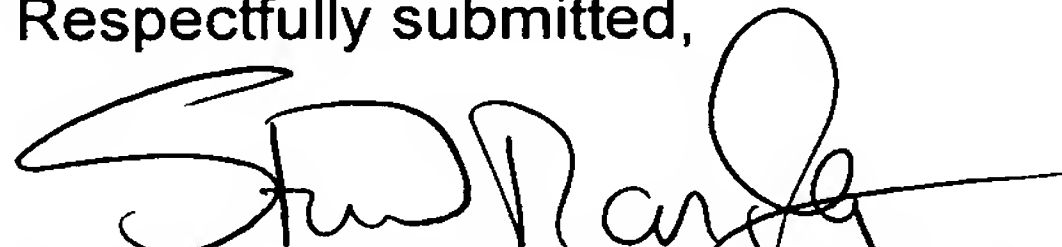
Claims 11-20, which were not rejected on art grounds, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

The references that were cited but not relied upon are no more relevant than the references that were relied upon. In view of all of the above, the claims are now believed to be allowable and the case in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

This response is filed together with a request for a three month extension of time and the required fee. Any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1123.

October 7, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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